

PATENT**REMARKS**

The Office Action dated October 6, 2005, has been received and considered. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in the present application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Allowability of Claims 7 and 11-15

The Applicants note with appreciation the indication at page 6 of the Office Action that claims 7 and 11-15 are allowed.

Obviousness Rejections of Claims 1-6, 8-10, and 16-21

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7-10, 16-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lary (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/006589) in view of Zitlaw (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0046485). At page 5 of the Office Action, claims 6 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lary in view of Zitlaw and further in view of Microsoft Computer Dictionary. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1, from which claims 2-6 and 8-10 depend, recites the features of when in a first mode of operation, utilizing a first output coupled to a memory to provide a first data lane enable, and when in a second mode of operation, utilizing the first output to provide an address bit of a second memory address. At page 2, the Office Action asserts that the control lane 306 of FIG. 3 of Lary and the passages at paragraphs 20 and 23-24 of Lary disclose the first output feature recited the above with respect to independent claim 1. However, contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Lary fails to disclose, or even suggest, that the control lane 306 is used to provide an address bit of a memory address as provided by independent claim 1. Moreover, Lary fails to disclose or suggest that any other output of its system provides a data lane enable in a first mode of operation and an address bit of a memory address in a second mode of operation as recited by independent claim 1. The Office Action does not assert that Zitlaw or the Microsoft Computer Dictionary disclose or suggest these features. Accordingly, the Office Action fails to

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establish that the proposed combinations of Lary, Zitlaw and the Microsoft Computer Dictionary disclose or suggest the particular combination of features recited by independent claim 1.

Independent claim 16, from which claims 17 and 18 depend, recites the features of: an address control portion having an input coupled to an output of a first register, and an output to indicate a value of an address bit when in a first mode of operation; a first data lane enable control portion having an input coupled to the output of a first register, and an output to indicate a first data lane enable value when in a second mode of operation; and an output pin coupled to the output of the address control portion and the output of the first data lane enable control portion, and further coupled to a memory. At page 3, the Office Action asserts that the south bridge controller 204 of Lary is equivalent to the claimed address control portion feature and the MUX 304 of Lary is equivalent to the claimed first data lane enable control portion feature. However, assuming, *arguendo*, that these equivalencies are accurate, Lary fails to disclose or suggest an output pin coupled to the output of the south bridge controller 204 and the MUX 304 and where the output pin is further coupled to a memory. The Applicants note that the Office Action does not address the output pin feature in any manner. Accordingly, the proposed combination of Lary and Zitlaw fails to disclose or suggest the output pin feature recited by claim 16, and therefore fails to disclose or suggest the particular combination of features recited by independent claim 16.

Independent claim 19, from which claims 20 and 21 depend, recites the features of operational instructions that cause the processing module to utilize a first output coupled to a memory to provide a first data lane enable when in a first mode of operation and utilize the first output to provide an address bit of a second memory address when in a second mode of operation. As discussed above with respect to the independent claim 1 and contrary to the Office Action's assertions, Lary fails to disclose or even suggest an output that provides a data lane enable when in a first mode of operation and an address bit of a memory address when in a second mode of operation. In fact, as discussed above, Lary fails to disclose or suggest an output that provides an address bit of a memory address in any manner. Accordingly, the proposed combinations of Lary, Zitlaw and Microsoft Computer Dictionary fail to disclose or suggest the particular combination of features recited by independent claim 19.

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Claims 2-6, 8-10, 17, 18, 20 and 21 depend from one of claims 1, 16 or 19, and the proposed combinations of Lary, Zitlaw and Microsoft Computer Dictionary therefore fail to disclose or suggest the additional features recited by these claims at least by virtue of their dependencies from one of claims 1, 16 or 19. Moreover, these dependent claims recite additional non-obvious subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the obviousness rejections of claims 1-6, 8-10, and 16-21 are improper at this time. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections therefore is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,



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